

Towards a Green
Economy? pg 3



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Minister of Tourism pg 3

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Recently Mr. and Mrs. Robert and Donna Anderson were honored as Distinguished Guests of Aruba at the Divi Tamarijn Beach Resort.

Mr. Ricardo Croes, Aruba Tourism Authority representative presented them with a special award for being 10 year visitors to Aruba. The Andersons hail from Farmingdale, New York.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles and Diane Russo have been visiting Aruba now for 10 years! They were delighted to receive the special Distinguished Guest of Aruba award. Mr. Ricardo Croes of the Aruba Tourism Authority proudly presented them with this special honor.

The Russos expressed that they will continue returning to Aruba's lovely white sand beaches and its luscious variety of restaurants.

Mr. and Mrs. Jeff and Terri Cassell became Goodwill Ambassadors of Aruba. The presentation was made at the Divi Tamarijn Beach Resort. Mr. Ricardo Croes, representative of Aruba Tourism Authority presented them with this special distinction for their 20 years of continued visits to Aruba. The Cassells are from New Jersey.

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TUESDAY AND FRIDAY: LIVE MUSIC

Quake kills 65 in New Zealand's 'darkest day'



CHRISTCHURCH, New Zealand (AFP) — Rescuers searched through the night for survivors after a powerful quake killed at least 65 people in New Zealand's second city Christchurch, crushing buildings and vehicles.

"We may be witnessing New Zealand's darkest day," Prime Minister John Key said after the 6.3-magnitude quake pummelled the city, six months

after buildings were weakened by a 7.0 quake that miraculously claimed no victims.

"This is a community that is absolutely in agony," Key said, warning that the toll was likely to rise.

New Zealand's deadliest tremor in 80 years struck as streets were packed with lunchtime shoppers, and turned central Christchurch into a rubble-strewn disaster zone littered with dazed and bleeding residents.

The city's cathedral lost its spire while the six-storey Canterbury TV building was reduced to a smoking ruin.

Rescue helicopters plucked survivors to safety from the rooftops of buildings where staircases had collapsed and emergency workers used giant cranes to pull office workers out of ruined buildings.

Media reports quoted Christchurch's mayor Bob Parker as saying that up to 200 people may still be trapped inside ruined buildings.

Among those unaccounted for were 11 students and teachers from a language school in the Japanese city of Toyama, Japan's Jiji Press news agency reported.

Police drafted in urban search and rescue teams in an attempt to locate survivors, while Japan, Australia and the United States were among countries sending rescuers to help.

Local station TV3 said dead

bodies had been pulled from a hostel and a bookshop, and that a tourist was crushed to death in a van. All flights in the country were briefly suspended after a Christchurch control tower was damaged.

Power was cut to thousands of residents, mobile phone networks were disrupted and road and rail transport was badly hit. Water mains also burst, unleashing a torrent of water that joined with heavy rains to inundate the suburb of Bexley.

Britain's Queen Elizabeth, who is New Zealand's head of state, said she was "utterly shocked" by the disaster while the national cricket team, in India for the World Cup, reacted in horror to the news.

New Zealand sits on the "Pacific Ring of Fire", a vast zone of seismic and volcanic activity stretching from Chile on one side to Japan and Indonesia on the other.

Construction tycoon Pacolli elected president of Kosovo



PRISTINA, Kosovo (AFP) — Kosovo's parliament yesterday elected construction tycoon Behgjet Pacolli as its new president by a narrow majority after several rounds of voting following an opposition walk-out.

Pacolli was the only candidate for president after his party joined forces with the Democratic Party of Kosovo (PDK) of incumbent prime minister Hashim Thaci.

Three rounds of voting were needed to eventually elect him with a slim majority of 62 votes as only 67 deputies

were present in the 120-seat parliament due to the opposition walkout.

"After the third vote and after counting the ballots for the candidate for the president of Kosovo, I conclude that 62 from 67 members of the parliament voted for Behgjet Pacolli," said Memli Krasniqi, the president of the election commission in parliament.

The parliament is also due to vote on a new cabinet and confirm Thaci's position as prime minister.

Thaci's international image has been tarnished after he and other senior officials were linked to organised crime and organ trafficking following a report by the Council of Europe adopted last month.

Thaci has denied the claims which date back to the time when he was a leader of the Kosovo Liberation Army (KLA) as it fought against Serb forces.

Somali pirates kill 4 on US yacht

WASHINGTON (AFP) — Somali pirates yesterday killed four Americans including a retired couple onboard their hijacked yacht in a sudden violent turn to efforts to end a hostage drama, the US military said.

Jean and Scott Adam, a California couple active in missionary work, had been sailing the world on the S/V Quest yacht for more than seven years and had planned to take in sites from India to Djibouti to Crete on their latest trip.

Phyllis Macay and Bob Riggle, a couple from Seattle who joined the Adams, were also killed by the band of 19 pirates who commandeered the yacht in waters southeast of Oman, US officials said.

Secretary of State Hillary Clinton said the United States "strongly condemns the murder" of the four and urged



An armed Somali pirate sits along the coastline of Hobyo town in northeastern Somalia. AFP/File

other nations, particularly in Africa, to contribute to efforts to fight piracy from lawless Somalia. Four US warships including the nuclear-powered USS Enterprise aircraft carrier had been tracking the S/V Quest since a Danish crew discovered three days earlier that it had been hijacked, US officials said.

The US military brought two of the pirates onboard the USS Sterett to conduct negoti-

ations to free the hostages, said Vice Admiral Mark Fox, head of the US Naval Forces Central Command based in Bahrain.

Then with "absolutely no warning," the pirates launched a rocket-propelled grenade at the USS Sterett, Fox said, leading US Special Forces to race to the yacht where they heard gunfire.

By the time they boarded, all four Americans had been shot. The niece of a victim, along with US officials, said that the US forces tried to revive them but that all died of their wounds.

The US Special Forces soon took control of the yacht, stabbing to death one pirate and shooting dead another, Fox told reporters at the Pentagon by telephone.

The 15 surviving pirates from the clash are being held on a US ship, Fox said.

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Permaculture is presented to Minister of Tourism



Last Monday Minister of Tourism, Otmar Oduber together with the management team and staff of the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Livestock received a presentation on Permaculture in the new Santa Rosa building in Piedra Plat.

Permaculture is a system designed to increase productivity and efficiency of agriculture while securing the sustainability of the social and economic environment. The word, permaculture, expresses the idea of a mixture of terms... 'permanent' and 'agriculture'.

Yet, it reaches far beyond sustainable agriculture and is surrounded by all other aspects of human life. Permaculture unifies disciplines of the science of food, refuge, energy, water, waste management, economics and social aspects. It may be considered a holistic approach which recognizes that everything, particularly human life and the environment are intertwined and must

be seen as a complete whole.

The presentation was offered by a local foundation, by a local expert, Mr. Urvin Leest.

Mr. Leest has already provided assistance to others on the matter of Permaculture on a small scale. Our local foundation works closely with the international Resilient Futures International foundation. This international body intends to implement the practice of Permaculture worldwide so as to create better environments and ultimately a better world.

One of the issues under discussion is the price of water and the lack of adequate land space. One of Permaculture's objectives is to use our natural resources as efficiently as possible, hence the plan to use recyclable water and to use as little land space as possible.

Santa Rosa's role in the Permaculture program will be one of making the community aware of the program and to provide information. Our people must be made aware of the many benefits of this practice. It is our intention to introduce a pilot project where the various principles will be applied so that our people could further apply them.

The Minister and all those present were impressed with the interesting presentation, especially in view of Oduber's plight to revive our primary sector and to instill a new love for agriculture into our people. He feels that Permaculture could be one way of achieving this goal.

Request Donations to WCA to Welfare Committee

The Women's Club of Aruba hereby announces that as from January 2011, they have been receiving request for donations and that the last day to submit your request for donation will be:

February 26, 2011.

Please submit your Plan for/or project and your Annual financial Statement on time.

For appointment of delivery of reports please call

WCA Chairman Mrs. Fran Mosconi:

Cel: 744-7674.

Towards a Green Economy?

More thought provoking commentary from Dr. Ryan Peterson!

ORANJESTAD -- While the notion of a "Green Conference," a "Green Corridor" and a "Green Economy" has recently gained lots of attention, both internationally and locally, the true notion of 'Green' testifies to a development that is sustainable by emphasizing a 'future' oriented perspective, 'free' entrepreneurial enterprising, with 'fair' corporate social and community responsibilities, and 'fitting' within the natural and cultural ecology of nations. A Green Economy (GE) creates jobs and economic progress, while at the same time avoiding considerable downside risks such as the effects of climate change and the loss of ecosystem services.

Recently the UNEP released the conclusions of their Green Economy conference, including the following highlights:

Investing just 2% of global GDP into ten key sectors can kick-start a transition towards a low-carbon, resource-efficient economy.

The new UNEP report demonstrates that a transition to a green economy is possible by investing 2% of global GDP per year (currently about US 1.3 trillion) between now and 2050 in a green transformation of key sectors, including agriculture, buildings, energy, fisheries, forests, manufacturing, tourism, transport, water and waste management. However, such investments must be spurred by national and international policy reforms.

Greening the economy not only generates growth, and in particular gains in natural capital, but it also produces a higher growth in GDP and GDP per capita. Under the GE modeling exercise, a green investment scenario achieves higher annual growth rates than a business as usual scenario within 5-10 years. This economic growth is characterized by a significant decoupling from environmental impacts with the global ecological footprint to biocapacity ratio projected to decline from a current level of 1.5 to less than 1.2 by 2050 – much closer to a sustainable threshold value of 1 – as opposed to rising beyond a level of 2 under business as usual.

Global demand for energy rises somewhat but returns to current levels by 2050, which is about 40% less than what is expected under business as usual thanks to substantial advances in energy efficiency. A green investment scenario is

projected to reduce energy-related CO2 emissions by about one-third by 2050 compared to current levels. The atmospheric concentration of emissions should be held below 450 ppm by 2050, a level essential for having a chance to limit global warming to the 2°C threshold.

A green economy values and invests in natural capital.

One-quarter of the green investments analyzed – 0.5% of GDP (US \$325 billion) – is allocated to natural capital sectors: forestry, agriculture, freshwater and fisheries. Value added in the forest industry rises by about 20% in 2050 as compared to business as usual. Investments in green agriculture ranging from US \$100-300 billion per year over 2010-2050 would lead over time to rising soil quality and increasing global yields for major crops, representing an improvement of 10% above what is possible with current investment strategies. Increased efficiency in agriculture, industrial and municipal sectors would reduce demand for water by about a fifth by 2050, as compared to projected trends, reducing pressure on groundwater and surface water in both the short and long term.

In a transition to a green economy, new jobs will be created, which over time exceed the losses in "brown economy" jobs. This is particularly notable in the agriculture, buildings, energy, forestry and transport sectors. However, in sectors whose capital is severely depleted, such as in fisheries, greening will necessitate the loss of jobs and income in the short and medium term in order to replenish natural stocks and prevent a permanent loss of income and jobs. It may also require an investment to re-skill and re-educate the workforce.

Prioritizing government investment and spending in areas that stimulate the greening of economic sectors is on the critical path.

Reforming costly and harmful subsidies in all sectors will open fiscal space and free resources for a GE transition. Removing subsidies in energy, water, fisheries and agriculture sectors, alone, would save 1-2% of global GDP a year. Fisheries subsidies, for example, estimated at around US \$27 billion a year, result in more damage than long-term gains to national economies and social welfare. Price and production subsidies for fossil fuels

collectively exceeded US \$650 billion in 2008, and this level of support discourages the transition to renewable energies. Using instruments, such as taxes, incentives and tradable permits to promote green investment and innovation is also essential, but so is investing in capacity building, training and education. Strengthening international governance and global mechanisms that support a transition are important. The UN Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20 Summit) in 2012 will be an opportunity to set a new direction for a more sustainable, secure and just world.

The scale of financing required for a green economy transition is substantial, but an order of magnitude smaller than annual global investment.

In this regard, it is worth noting that the 2% of global GDP modeled in the report is a fraction of total gross capital formation - about 22% of global GDP in 2009). This amount can be mobilized by smart public policy and innovative financing mechanisms. The rapid growth of capital markets, the market's increasing interest in green initiatives and the evolution of alternative instruments, such as carbon finance and microfinance, are opening up the space for large-scale final transformation. However, these amounts are still small compared to total volumes required, and urgently need to be scaled up.

The move towards a green economy is happening on a scale and at a speed never seen before.

For 2010, new investment in clean energy was expected to reach a record high of US\$ 180-200 billion, up from US \$162 billion in 2009 and US \$173 billion in 2008. Growth is increasingly driven by non-OECD countries, whose share of global investment in renewables rose from 29% in 2007 to 40% in 2008, with Brazil, China, and India accounting for most of it.

Prof. Dr. Ryan R. Peterson, PhD, MSc.

Professor of Institutional Capabilities for Island Innovation Faculty of Hospitality, Tourism Management & International Business Studies University of Aruba ~ www.ua.aw Oranjestad, Aruba E-mail: management@fhtms.org



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FantaSea at the Royal Plaza

Treasures in the Royal Attic



The 1,725-lot auction will include furniture, porcelain, glass, silver, paintings and drawings. Most items come from 17th-century Palace Soestdijk, where Queen Juliana lived with Prince Bernhard for all of her married life. The remaining pieces are from the attics and stores of six other palaces.

The auction will be conducted on behalf of Queen Juliana's four daughters: Queen Beatrix, Princess Irene, Princess Margriet and Princess Christina. The proceeds will go to charities, including the Red Cross, with which Queen Juliana had a long-term relationship.

AMSTERDAM, The Netherlands -- Sotheby's Amsterdam will offer property from the estate of Queen Juliana of the Netherlands (1909-2004) in a four-day sale from March 14-17 at the RAI Theater Congress Center.

"Give art a valuable place in your life."

Waldy Simson celebrates 20 years as artist

Tersatile artist Waldy Simson, in cooperation with UNOCA, the will be hosting a jubilee exhibition from March 26 to 29 in Cas di Cultura in Oranjestad.

The exhibition *Waldy Simson 20 años den arte* will give a view of the development of Simson as an artist in past 20 years of his career. Accompanied by poetry and music by Waldy himself, the exhibition will show visual works of art, such as ceramic, tiffany, paintings, works based on papercuttings and engraving on glass.

Students will get the opportunity to take part at a prize contest.

There will also be color copies of *Women*.

Women is a tiffany work of art made by Simson, based on the theme beauty of women. *Women* is up till now - in terms of size and amount of pieces of glass used - the biggest work of art Simson may have made during his career as artist.



Aloha Bridge Club Aruba announces its Spring Tournament

Looking for a game of duplicate bridge? Look no further!

The Aloha Bridge Club Aruba is the only bridge club on Aruba that meets twice a week to play, every Thursday morning and every Friday evening. With over 40 regular members and many guest players every week, it is the fastest growing bridge club on the island.

Aloha is launching its first bridge tournament of the year on March 18 at Casa del Mar and welcomes bridge enthusiasts from all levels to participate in the fun and prizes.

For more information



about the regular club meets or the tournament, please

contact Addy Eilers at 582 4953

Breakfast

7:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

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Aruba organizes first Lionfish Derby



On March 19, 2011 Aruba will host its first Lionfish Derby to reduce the population of this invasive species and at the same time acquaint seafood lovers with the fact that it is considered a delicacy.

The event is to stimulate interest in controlling the rapid propagation of Lionfish within Aruba waters; with no known predators and a voracious appetite, Lionfish can quickly decimate the delicate balance of the reef environment.

Teams who register will sail out on Saturday, March 19, to catch as many Lionfish as possible.

There will be three cash prizes awarded:

1. Most Lion Fish caught by a group: Afls. 250

1. Biggest Lion Fish by length: Afls. 250

2. Most Lion Fish by an individual: Afls. 250

The most interesting and exciting part of this tournament will be afterwards, when the Lionfish will be grilled at Hadicuari Restaurant for all those present, so they may taste this delicacy. Lionfish are fine eating; so with our appetites we can also help control its invasion of our waters.

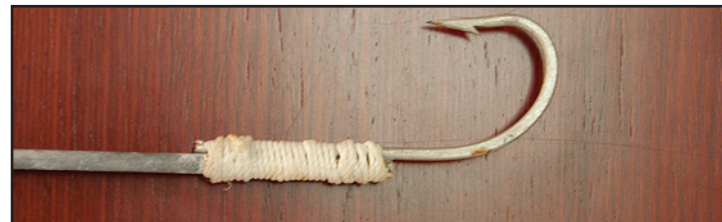
During the tournament there will be tents offering mouth-watering seafood and other dishes, ice cold refreshments and activities to make

the event a tremendous family day.

Since the first reported sighting in Aruba's waters of lionfish, the interest of divers, tour operators and fishermen to participate in such a tournament has grown. Videos on facebook.com/hadicurari show how easy it is to fillet this excellent food fish.

Important Notice: spear guns, slingshots and harpoons are prohibited by law and cannot be used to catch the fish. Extreme measures are not necessary. A simple homemade iron hook and bait tied with rope is enough to catch lionfish as they are slow moving and have no fear of predators; they will eat anything and everything in their path. Because of this, if left unchecked, they pose a severe threat to our coral reef, ecosystems, tourism and fisheries of the region, in general.

As a top predator, it consumes juvenile snapper and grouper along with algae-eating parrotfish. This can have a negative effect for our reefs, fishermen, restaurants and our economy. The largest of lionfish can grow to about 15 inches (0.4 meters) in length, but the average is closer to 1



Lionfish Tool

foot (0.3 meters). It also has a high reproductive rate.

The Lion fish is venomous and its spines (dorsal, anal and ventral) which can cause injury to humans with severe pain. The fish must be handled with special care, however, it is NOT poisonous, and so it is quite safe to eat. If stung, immerse the wound in hot water, which breaks down the venom, and seek medical attention. Once the spines are removed the fish is harmless and can be handled without any risk.

Organizers ask that even those not participating unite to control the lionfish population. When dining at seafood restaurants request lionfish and inquire why they don't have it on the menu. When SCUBA diving or snorkeling, if a lionfish is spotted, help eliminate it from our waters by catching or culling it if possible and properly equipped or PLEASE report it

to the authorities; in this way, you are helping to preserve our reefs.

Hadicurari Center cordially invites all fishermen, divers, watersports companies and the general public to register for the Lionfish Derby. The center has scheduled a general meeting for captains and boat owners On March Friday 11. Information for all fisherman and boat owners is continually provided on facebook.com/hadicurari regarding meteorological advisories and security at sea.

Those interested in registering for the derby are requested to contact:

Mr. Francisco Franken
Centro di Pesca Hadicu-
rari, Barea di Piscado 1, tel.
586-6610 or

Mr. Byron Boekhoudt,
Centro di Pesca Hadicu-
rari, Barea di Piscado 1, tel.
586-0820

Sci-Tech

Ink-jet printers inspire scientists to make skin



WASHINGTON (AFP) - Ink-jet printing technology has inspired scientists to look for ways to build sheets of skin that could one day be used for grafts in burn victims, experts said Sunday.

One technique involves a portable bioprinter that could be carried to wounded soldiers on the battlefield where it would scan the injury, take cells from the patient and print a section of compatible skin.

Another uses a three-dimensional printer combining donor cells, biofriendly gel and other materials to build cartilage.

The 3-D printer was shown at work, building a prototype of an ear during a half-hour demonstration at a

Washington science conference.

Hod Lipson of Cornell University in New York said it worked much like an ink-jet printer.

"It spits out plastic to gradually build an object layer by layer... after a couple of hours you end up with a real physical object that you can hold in your hand," he said.

"Just imagine -- if you could take cells from a donor, culture them, put them into an ink and recreate an implant that is alive and made of the original cells from the donor -- how useful that would be in terms of avoiding rejection," said Lipson.

"That is where we are going. Let's see how far we can go."

Studies using the technology in animals have shown promise, particularly with printed cartilage, which is relatively simple in its construction and is tough so it can withstand the rigors of printing.

"There are very severe limitations," Lipson said. "We are right now limited to

cells... that can handle being printed."

Scientist James Yoo of Wake Forest University in North Carolina said his team's approach to printing skin has shown positive results in repairing skin in mouse and pig models.

"One approach is to directly deploy cells to the wound site and the other approach is to build a tissue construct outside the body and transfer it into the body," said Yoo.

The technology works in part via a scanner that takes a measure of the affected area and identifies the depth and extent of the injury, informing the bioprinter of how many layers of cells need to be made.

Both scientists said the advances were still in their early stages and required more research and refinement before they are ready for human patients.

"One of the challenges that we will eventually face is like anything else, when you are trying to transfer the technology into the body, how can we create and connect those tissues?" said Yoo.

"Whatever you put in the body has to be connected with the body's blood vessels, blood supply and oxygen."



A researcher for Japan's mobile communication giant NTT docomo displays a new communication gadget that monitors a users pulse and displays their feelings called a "Taion-heart" at the NTT laboratory's open house in Tokyo on February 22, 2011. The new communication device is equipped with touch and pulse sensors and displays a user's feeling with flashing multi-colored lights and vibration. The Taion Heart, translated as the body temperature heart, is designed to mimic the experience of holding hands. Sounds sweet, but how does it work? First, you hold the white heart-shaped plastic device in the palm of your hand. It reads your pulse and the pressure of your squeeze. Then, the device, which is synced with your mobile phone, sends that data to an app on your partner's phone synced to their matching Taion Heart. Sound complicated? Perhaps, but the real reward is when both hearts are synced. Based on your data, your partner's Taion Heart will vibrate, change temperature and light up in a rainbow array. It can also vibrate in tempo with your heartbeat. DoCoMo encourages the geographically disperse lovers to keep their Taion Hearts in bed with them as they sleep. If you can't have your partner there with you, at least you can sleep tight with their vital signs glowing in your arms. (AFP PHOTO)

Discovery 'ready to fly' on last space mission



CAPE CANAVERAL, Florida (AFP) - NASA said Tuesday that the space shuttle Discovery is "ready to fly" on its final mission to the International Space Station and weather looks 80 percent favorable for launch day on February 24.

"Over the last few months the team has been very busy effecting repairs to the external tank and making it



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HP's TouchPad rushed for March release, report

Hewlett-Packard is reportedly trying to disrupt the upcoming wave of Android 3.0 tablets by planning to launch its WebOS 3.0 TouchPad earlier than expected. HP's website still says the 9.7-inch tablet should arrive this summer, but a DigiTimes report quoting sources from HP's upstream component partners says the TouchPad could arrive as early as the end of March.

HP is gunning for Apple's iPad directly, as the TouchPad features the same display size, format and resolution as the iPad. But Apple's tablet won't be the only competitor by the time the first WebOS tablet from HP comes to market. Motorola is planning to launch the Xoom this week, while the likes of Samsung and Toshiba have similar plans underway this spring. If the TouchPad launches late this summer, this means HP could lose potential customers to the iPad 2, as well as Android 3.0 tablets.

In this context, DigiTimes' report that HP is set to start selling the TouchPad in April, with deliveries by the end of March, makes sense. HP is forecasting to sell around four to five million TouchPads by the end of 2011, according to the report, to work in harmony with the new range of Pre smartphones from HP, expected this summer too. Combined, HP hopes to sell 45 to 48 million notebooks and tablets.

Unlike Android tablets, HP seems to have adopted for the TouchPad a 'less is more' strategy. There are no dual cameras (just one at the front), no expandable storage or USB ports.

Slightly less beefy specs would allow HP to sell the TouchPad much closer to the price of the iPad, while Android tablets are charging an extra (Motorola's Xoom tablet starts at \$800). No official pricing has been announced for the TouchPad.

has seen before, so it was not expected to impact the launch planned for 4:50 pm (2150 GMT) on Thursday.

"Our launch countdown is proceeding smoothly and is on schedule," said Payne.

Shuttle launch weather officer Kathy Winters expected Thursday to be mainly sunny and breezy, with only a 20 percent likelihood of unfavorable weather for the launch.

"Overall, the weather looks good," she said.

Discovery was initially scheduled to fly in November 2010 but cracks emerged in the external fuel tank just ahead of the launch, postponing the mission until now.

Discovery, which first flew in 1984, will be the first shuttle to enter retirement when it concludes this mission. The other two remaining in the fleet, Atlantis and Endeavour, are slated for their final flights later this year.

stronger than ever," said NASA test director Steve Payne.

"We have also resolved a problem with a hydrogen vent system leak and are now ready to fly again," he told reporters.

Payne said there was one small interior leak on a reaction control system regulator but described the issue as "minor" and one that NASA



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BRIEFS:

Chinese man dies after web gaming binge:

BEIJING (AFP) – A Chinese man in his 30s has died after a three-day gaming binge at an Internet cafe outside Beijing, during which he did not sleep and barely ate, state-run media reported.

The incident highlighted the country's ongoing battle to stamp out Internet addiction, which affects tens of millions of Chinese, according to researchers.

The man, who was not identified, slipped into a coma this week in the cafe on the outskirts of the capital and was rushed to a nearby clinic, where he died shortly after, the Beijing Times said.

He had spent more than 10,000 yuan (\$1,500) over the past month on Internet gaming, and had barely moved from his computer for a three-day period, the report said.

=====

Thailand developing dengue vaccine: researcher

BANGKOK (AFP) – Researchers in Thailand say they have developed a prototype vaccine against dengue fever and will conduct further tests with the aim of bringing it to market within a decade.

The vaccine against the mosquito-borne disease was jointly developed by scientists from Thailand's Chiang Mai University, Mahidol University and the government's National Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology.

The vaccine has been tested on mice and monkeys. The next stage will be human trials, he said.

The Thai team said it had created a hybrid dengue virus that carries genes of all four types.

The developers have struck a licensing agreement with Thai biotech firm BioNet-Asia, which will further develop the vaccine with the aim of releasing the first commercial batch within 10 years, Nopporn said.

=====

Myanmar mass inoculation plan after polio case: UN

YANGON (AFP) – Myanmar is planning a mass polio vaccination after a seven-month-old baby was diagnosed with the virus, the country's first case in three years, according to the United Nations Children's Fund.

Just one case is enough to trigger an "emergency response", UNICEF said, and health officials promptly vaccinated 10,000 children in the Mandalay region, central Myanmar, after the illness was first suspected in December 2010.

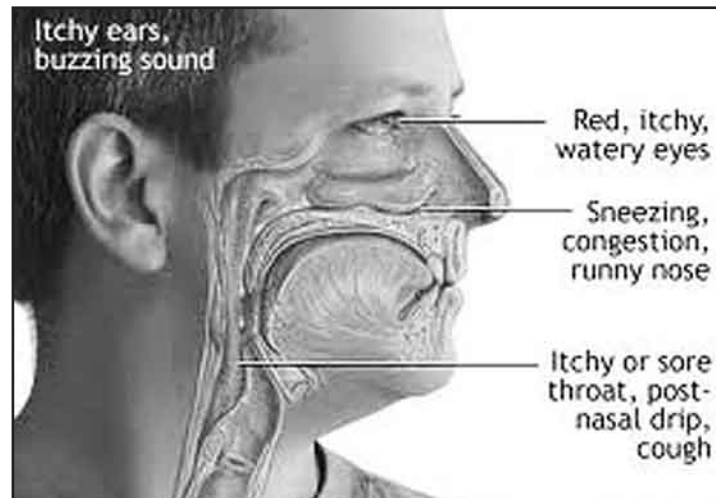
The UN agency said the baby was diagnosed with a strain genetically mutated from the version contained in the oral polio vaccine.

An immunised person transmits the weakened virus to others and in very rare cases the virus in the vaccine can mutate into a form that can paralyse, according to the World Health Organization (WHO).

=====

Health & Living

Global warming means longer allergy seasons: study



Allergy symptoms

WASHINGTON (AFP) – Ragweed allergy season in North America has grown two to four weeks longer in recent years because of warmer temperatures and later fall frosts, researchers said.

Northern parts of the United States and Canada have seen the most dramatic rise in allergy season length between 1995 and 2009, said the study to be published in their edition of the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences.

The city of Saskatoon in Saskatchewan, Canada saw the longest pollen season, adding

27 more days in 2009 compared to 1995. Winnipeg, Manitoba saw a 25-day increase during the same period.

Fargo, North Dakota and Minneapolis, Minnesota each saw allergy seasons extend 16 days. But looking further south, Rogers, Arkansas and Georgetown, Texas saw decreases of several days in their pollen seasons.

The study said the starker changes in the northern latitudes were consistent with the United Nations' Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change projections of more in-

tense warming in areas closer to the Arctic.

"Latitudinal effects on increasing season length were associated primarily with a delay in first frost of the fall season and lengthening of the frost-free period," the study said.

"Overall, these data indicate a significant increase in the length of the ragweed pollen season by as much as 13-27 days at latitudes above 44 degrees north since 1995."

Scientists used pollen measurements from the US National Allergy bureau and Canada's Aerobiology Research Laboratories, combined with data from US weather stations, Environment Canada and the Canadian National Climate Data and Information Archive.

Ragweed allergies, often called hayfever, strike as many as 30 percent of Americans, typically in warmer seasons. Symptoms range from sneezing and sniffing to severe asthma.

The culprit is a family of plants belonging to the genus Ambrosia, whose flowers send off tiny grains of pollen that the body recognizes as a threat.

Swaziland launches circumcision drive



MBABANE, Swaziland (AFP) – Swaziland launched a drive to encourage men to volunteer for circumcision in a bid to curb the spread of HIV, of which the small kingdom has the highest infection rate in the world.

Circumcision is not traditionally practised in Swaziland, a landlocked country ruled by the polygamous King Mswati III, but studies have shown that it could halve men's chances of contracting HIV.

The drive aims to circumcise 80 percent of Swazi men within a year, said the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), which is funding the project.

The project, which kicked off with the launch of four new circumcision clinics, targets men between the ages of 15 and 49, and is expected to cover the entire country by April.

"If we prevent new infections right now through this intervention, then in the near future we will start to see the HIV situation change," said programme coordinator Ayanda Nqeketo.

"Of course there is no quick-fix solution but we are talking about the impact over

time," Nqeketo said.

Swaziland has the highest HIV infection rate in the world, according to the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS. In 2009, 25.9 percent of the country's 1.2 million people were living with HIV.

According to the World Health Organisation, between 2000 and 2009 life expectancy in Swaziland plummeted from 61 years to 52 years due to AIDS related deaths.

"If you are able to do this (circumcise men) in a short period of time, the impact is felt more dramatically," said USAID country director Jennifer Albertini, adding that by acting quickly 88,000 new infections could be prevented.

The circumcision programme is projected to cost \$15 million (10.9 million euros).



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Love and charity was in the air at the annual FOTH Sweethearts Dinner/Dance



Sweetheart Dance devotees Barb and Ken Varga

Those who attended the annual fundraising Sweethearts Dinner Dance conducted by the Friends of the Handicapped in the Radisson Ballroom 5 days after Valentine's Day night know it is never too late to show your significant other they are special, or doing it again a few days after that day dedicated to lovers, making the holiday twice as nice! Even if they were there with just a friend, everyone had a great time and felt good knowing they were helping many important island foundations which assist the physically and mentally challenged. Friends of the Handicapped was founded by Keith Jones and his wife over 20 years ago, and a dedicated group of community-minded island visitors have kept up the tradition of spending their winter months on Aruba raising money for the island's handicapped.

The Sweethearts Dinner/Dance has been a favorite



regular attendees of the sweethearts dinner dance



Phil and sister Pauline do a turn on the dance floor

way for Arubans and island visitors to mix and mingle on Valentine's Day for over 7 years now, and even though it was a bit late this year, it still attracted a nice crowd.

Arubans can thank the FOTH team of President Art Stark and his wife Alma, Philip Solomon, Sal and Maryann La Carruba, Pauline Daley, Linda Todman, David and Tana Ulmschneider, Pat and Marsha Finck, Jean and Huguette Vateique and Arubans Anoushka Maduro of the

Casa Del Mar and Marcelino Kock, who assist them in realizing this lovely event and the contributions it generates.

FOTH volunteers in turn express their gratitude to the several island vendors who support them in their efforts, particularly those that donate valuable gifts for prizes in their annual raffles. These include: Noble Jewelers, Marandi, Amadeus and Texas de Brazil Restaurants; Playa Linda, Casa Del Mar and Aruba Beach Club for donating one-week stays, Westin Resort and Colombian Emeralds, Gemani Jewelers and Kay's Fine Jewelers. A big additional thank you is extended to Romar Trading, Casa Haime and Playa Liquor for providing the wines and spirits, and Elsa's Flower shop for the beautiful centerpieces; a romantic rose for each of the ladies to take home.

Friends and lovers wine, dined and danced to the popular NBO band; and all left feeling great knowing they were having fun while helping the less fortunate.

by Rosalie Klein



Aruban Parliamentarian Lorna Varlak and her romantic husband



Kelvin Augustin of Elmar with wife and friends



The Arugas table



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First National Bird Count is March 18, 2011



Boa eating a Gonzalito



On March 18, 2011, Aruba's National Anthem and Flag Day, the Department of Culture, in cooperation with Arikok National Park and Aruba Birdlife Conservation, will have its first National Bird Count. Everyone is invited to participate during this important fact-finding event.

Presently, there are 224 different bird species registered on Aruba. However, our island is very concerned about the bird population largely due to the menace of a quickly increasing number of Boa Constrictors, which are not natural to our environment, and have no known predator controlling their rapid propagation. As in many places, man's continual encroachment on wildlife

habitats in the name of "development," is also a principal menace to our birds.

The concept of The National Bird Count, to be held annually, will serve as an instrument to monitor our bird population, introduce strategic plans and stimulate citizens to respect and take care of our nature.

Participation is simple. Organizers ask all islanders, on March 18, just sit in

their gardens for 15 minutes, between 7:00 and 9:00 a.m. when birds will be most active, and carefully observe and count the birds around your premises. There is an attractive instruction form available for FREE to aid in the bird count and make it fun and educational for all ages. These forms are then to be delivered at stipulated delivery places and will be used to compile important data regarding our avian population. It is requested that all who participate are diligent in turning in the forms, as it is necessary in assessing the threat accurately.

More information will be issued in due course.

Photos courtesy of Greg Peterson

COMICS

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PICKLES



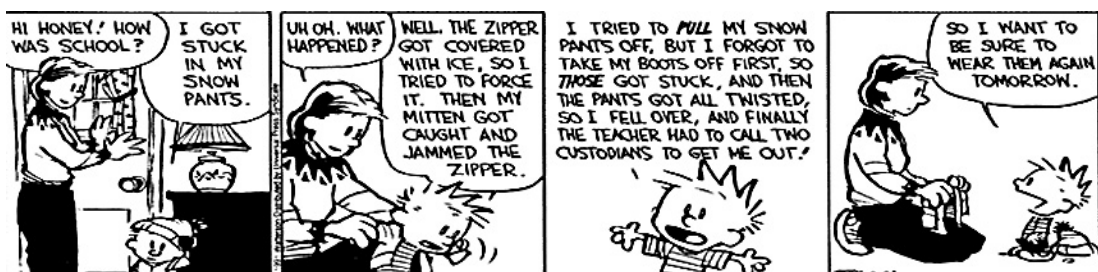
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MOMMA



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CALVIN and HOBBS



CROSSWORD

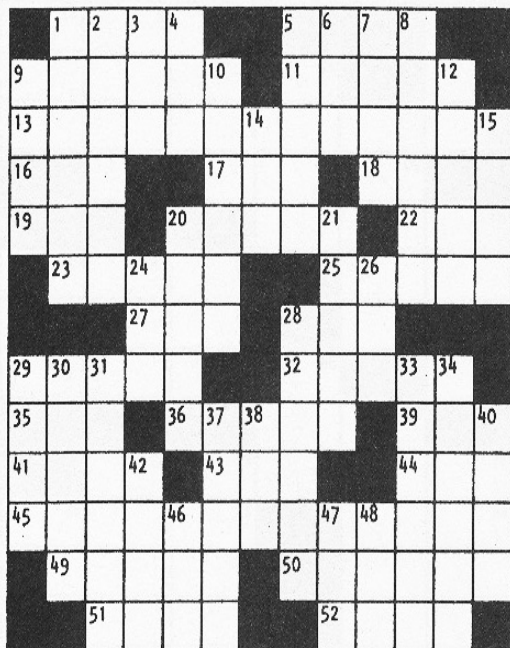


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ACROSS

1. Remainder
5. Tablet
9. ____ floss
11. Perfect
13. American poet: 3 wds.
16. Pasture
17. Ghost's word
18. Hardy heroine
19. Triangle side
20. Bothersome ones
22. Tennis call
23. Olympic award



25. Outmoded
27. Those holding office
28. Decade number
29. Pay out
32. Detested
35. Skill
36. "____ the Ball"
39. Steal
41. Joint disease
43. Have lunch
44. Santa ____, Calif.
45. American President: 2 wds.
49. Silly fowls
50. Secret agents, often
51. Prophet
52. Puts 2 and 2 together
7. Mardi Gras's follower
8. Jacket parts
9. Farmer of song's locale
10. Tags
12. Misplaces
14. ____ Angeles
15. Villa d' ____
20. Ling Ling, for one
21. Javelin
24. Clamor
26. Hill dweller
28. Greek letters
29. Heroic tale
30. Fork part
31. Musical works
33. Used a pencil end
34. Philanthropists
37. Not as many
38. ____ Mahal
40. Taboos
42. Aspen or maple
46. Opposite of WNW
47. Tax worker: abbr.
48. Billy the ____

DOWN

1. Save
2. Hire
3. Depot: abbr.
4. Road material
5. Airline employee
6. Actress Lupino

Courtesy of



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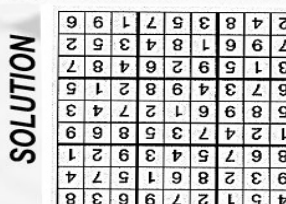
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Sudoku



Complete the grid so that every row and every column contains the numbers 1 through 9. A number is Never repeated in a row or column. In addition every rectangle must contain the numbers 1 through 9



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Finance

BRIEFS:

US consumer confidence hits 3-year high:

WASHINGTON (AFP) – US consumer confidence hit a three year high in February as Americans became more optimistic about their finances in the near term, according to a widely-watched indicator.

"Consumers are more positive about the economy and their income prospects, but feel somewhat mixed about employment conditions," said Lynn Franco, director of The Conference Board's consumer research center.

Moody's lowers Japan rating outlook to 'negative':

TOKYO (AFP) – Ratings agency Moody's lowered its outlook on Japan's sovereign debt to "negative", voicing doubt its leaders will manage to contain the industrialised world's biggest debt.

The move will put further pressure on Japan's centre-left Prime Minister Naoto Kan, in power less than a year, with legislative gridlock in parliament threatening his reform agenda and imperilling his leadership.

Last month rival ratings agency Standard & Poor's cut Japan's credit rating for the first time since 2002, accusing the government of lacking a "coherent" strategy to ease its mountainous debts.

S&P's downgrades Libya's debt rating amid unrest:

PARIS (AFP) – Rating agency Standard & Poor's downgraded Libya's sovereign debt rating, a day after its counterpart Fitch did the same amid growing unrest in the oil-rich nation.

Standard & Poor's lowered its long-term Libya rating from A- to BBB+, while also placing it on creditwatch with a view to a further downgrade in the near future.

Standard and & Poor's noted that the Libyan government "has significant flexibility to expand its social spending," should it seek that path to appease the protesters at home.

It estimated a government surplus of 11.5 percent of output, backed up by fiscal coffers benefiting currently from oil prices of over \$100 per barrel.

BHP in \$4.75 bn Chesapeake shale purchase:

SYDNEY (AFP) – Mining giant BHP Billiton agreed \$4.75 billion purchase for the Arkansas shale assets of Chesapeake Energy Corp, a move that will boost its oil and gas holdings by 45 percent.

BHP, the world's biggest miner, said it would take on all Chesapeake's interests in Fayetteville Shale USA, including the mid-stream pipeline system, and expected to fund the purchase with cash.

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World markets slide, oil soars on Libya unrest

LONDON, England (AFP) – Global markets dived and oil prices spiked above \$108 per barrel, as sentiment was rocked by violent unrest in Libya, while the safe-haven US dollar gained ground.

"The revolutions in Tunisia and Egypt are continuing to spread across the region. It seems to be Libya's turn now. These developments cause a high degree of uncertainty," said Commerzbank analyst Ulrich Leuchtmann.

Financial markets were also rattled by news of a deadly earthquake in New Zealand and a ratings down-

grade for Japan, dealers said.

Just after midday yesterday, London's FTSE 100 index of top shares shed 0.95 percent to 5,958 points, while the Paris CAC 40 plunged 1.46 percent to 4,037.59 and Frankfurt's DAX 30 retreated 0.31 percent to 7,299.74 points.

Oil prices surged past \$108 as Libyan output was hit by violent protests and concerns grew over spreading unrest in the strategic crude-producing Middle East and North Africa area.

In early morning trade, Brent North Sea crude for de-

livery in April spiked to \$108.57 per barrel, hitting the highest level since September 4, 2008.

And the European single currency sank as low as \$1.3525, compared with \$1.3678 late on Monday, when US financial markets were closed for the Presidents' Day public holiday.

With the Middle East turmoil pushing oil prices ever higher, rulers of the Gulf state of Bahrain were confronted by fresh mass protests and governments made plans to evacuate citizens from hotspots across the Arab world.

Wal-Mart's US sales drop in final quarter



NEW YORK (AFP) – Wal-Mart Stores, the world's biggest retailer, posted a decline in sales in the United States in its key final quarter despite sharp discounts to lure holiday shoppers.

US same-store sales, excluding fuel, fell 1.8 percent in the fiscal fourth quarter that ended January 31, the company said in a statement.

"We are disappointed by Walmart US fourth-quarter sales," Mike Duke, president and chief executive, acknowledged in the statement, using the company's trademark name.

Duke said that it would take some time to see positive comparable store sales under a new plan under way for the US operations.

"Some of the pricing and merchandising issues in Walmart ran deeper than we initially expected, and they require a response that will take time to see results," he said.

The company, based in

Bentonville, Arkansas, said it would expand growth in its international operations, which exclude the United States and Puerto Rico.

"Walmart International continues to be our growth engine, and we expect accelerated growth in emerging markets," Duke said.

International net sales exceeded \$109 billion in the year, an annual increase of more than 12 percent, with every country contributing a sales increase, he said.

The giant discounter, which operates 8,970 retail units under 60 different banners in 15 countries, said it was pursuing plans to acquire companies in South Africa and Britain.

"Walmart is continuing the processes to finalize the acquisitions of Massmart Holdings Limited in South Africa and the Netto stores in the UK," said Charles Holley, chief financial officer.

Massmart, the country's biggest wholesaler, operates

288 stores in 14 countries across Africa. The deal was approved by Massmart shareholders last month and is awaiting regulatory approval.

Wal-Mart's British arm Asda Group is buying the British branch of Netto discount supermarkets.

Holley was optimistic about growth, forecasting net sales to grow between four and six percent.

Wal-Mart reported net sales for the fourth quarter reached \$115.6 billion, an increase of 2.5 percent from a year earlier.

Income from continuing operations for the quarter rose four percent to \$5.0 billion, or earnings per share of \$1.41.

For the full year, Wal-Mart said profit reached \$15.3 billion, an increase of 6.3 percent from fiscal 2009.

Holley noted that the range did not include capital for the Massmart and the Netto stores acquisitions or "future acquisitions."

YESTERDAY'S Crossword Answer



Gold Coast Aruba: Great savings for large families on holiday rentals



Aruba's newest and most innovative gated community has enjoyed steady sales since breaking ground, as many are finding the secure surroundings and outstanding amenities are just what they were looking for before considering purchasing property on the island. Some owners are using the villas or town homes as vacation retreats rather than full time and are taking advantage of Gold Coast's rental services to turn their investment into ready income.

"The greater portion of home owners are using their 'home away from home' in Aruba to escape the winter months, or spend holidays with the family on the island," noted Gold Coast developer Fito Croes. To assist in the demand for more complete facilities for groups and families, famed hotelier Ed Malone has been placed in charge of the rental program.

Staying at Gold Coast is a very attractive proposition for those traveling with groups that would require multiple hotel rooms. Two and three bedroom Villas or Town Homes accommodate large numbers and offer extensive amenities along with a final cost resulting in considerable savings. The community is minutes to the best beaches and all the casino action, and offers a quiet and secluded getaway with two swimming pools and specialized services with more on the way, such as a fitness room, tennis courts and mini-mall. Ed can arrange maid service, babysitters,

caterers, airline pick-up and drop-off; they even boast a shopping service to stock your shelves before arrival.

Gold Coast accommodations are elegant and spacious, offering privacy for

homes come with cable TV, high-speed fiber-optic Internet connection, individual washer/dryer, and are fully air-conditioned. Cribs, high chairs and hair dryers are available for a modest fee.



parents or a few couples. Beautifully appointed kitchens and bathrooms grace each abode; barbecues and lounges are provided for friendly cookouts and truly savoring the island life. All

Concierge services to arrange rental cars, spa appointments, activities and restaurant reservations are all part of the package.

Check-in for your holiday escape is conducted in the comfort of your vacation home, not while waiting on line at check-in desk. In every way, Gold Coast seeks to pamper their guests while providing them with the feeling of being in a cozy community, not the normally bustling resort, particularly experienced during the major holidays. If you wish an optimal vacation experience with great savings, visit their website: www.goldcoastaruba.com to get acquainted with the community and the layout, details and availability of accommodations, or call 586-2200 to talk personally to a Gold Coast representative.



The Queen's offers an authentic taste of Aruba!



Varella, Luisa and the next generation of chef

One of the distinctions of Aruban cuisine is incorporating unique indigenous ingredients such as in Wild Cucumber Stew and a particular light fish chowder accompanied by the local specialties pan bati (corn meal pancake) and funchi (the local version of polenta.) Thus, eating out at the authentically Aruban restaurant, The Queen's, is very affordable, with a true taste of regional cuisine.

Owner Varella Innocencia confesses she opened her

into local cuisine. "We will definitely return to The Queen's," they affirmed, "the food was delicious and the prices are more than right."

The menu sports a variety of steaks and tenderloin, fresh caught seafood, Caribbean lobster, and of course, one of our favorites, and what we consider a true test of local cuisine, "Keshi Yena"- "Filled Cheese." This is a tasty, filling stew of chicken, with other ingredients that are handy that day, all incased in a thick skin



Keshi Yena with plantains and vegetables

restaurant in Oranjestad because "I grew up with this, and loved serving people our island food. My father and mother operated the little restaurant across from the Americana, which some may remember, the original Arawak. I remember how much our customers loved trying the local food, and they especially loved the prices!"

Varella's mom, Luisa, is still in the kitchen, conjuring up the delicious dishes that have been in her family for generations, which is acknowledged on the menu with "Carni Stoba di Mamachi"- "Grandma's Beef Stew," and their Arawak Steak.

We also bumped into island visitors Jim and Callie from Michigan, who were eager to try island food, and were more than pleased with their venture

of melted Gouda. It was very satisfying and particularly memorable paired with The Queen's garlic bread and very special Pica, a mix of chopped onions and the famous local hot pepper, Madame Janette. Not overly spicy, it lent that perfect bit of tang to this deliciously picturesque meal.

Located next to the Harbor at the end of the Weststraat, The Queen's is open from 11:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m., daily, offering indoor and outdoor dining. They also have daily specials, aside from an extensive menu; made from whatever is in season.

We noticed a steady stream of islanders coming for lunch in the pleasant surroundings or picking up take-out containers; always a sure sign of a winner is where the locals like to eat!



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Cuban asks Obama, Google boss for free Internet



Cuban folk star Silvio Rodriguez

HAVANA, Cuba (AFP) – Cuban folk star Silvio Rodriguez urged US President Barack Obama and Google CEO Eric Schmidt to provide free Internet to developing countries.

"It's a simple proposal: the world is very unequal, and a lot of pain could be avoided with action that could turn

into a worldwide qualitative step forward," Rodriguez said in a blog post at segundacita.blogspot.com.

"I am sure that it is something within reach of privileged minds (and budgets).

"So you owners of the Internet and President Obama: build a satellite network to give free Internet to the devel-

oping world," wrote the 63-year-old singer.

Earlier this month, the Americas' only communist government hailed a new undersea fiber optic cable connecting it to socialist ally Venezuela as a blow to the decades-old US embargo.

Despite the revamped access, authorities say Internet use will be limited to "social" purposes and that priority would be given to a limited set of users in universities and other educational institutions.

Deputy Minister of Information Jorge Luis Perdomo insisted earlier this month that "there is no political obstacle" to Internet access in Cuba.

But the opposition and dissidents charge the government is imposing ideological restrictions that aim to maintain authorities' control on sources of information and expression.

Uzbekistan warns over 'evil, satanic' rock music

TASHKENT, Uzbekistan (AFP) – Uzbekistan's state television issued an unequivocal denunciation of rock and rap as a Western liberal excess, saying the music is epitomised by sadism, drug addiction and immorality.

In a TV documentary called "Melody and Calamity" Uzbekistan's second main channel Youht TV raised alarm over "pernicious influence of Western rock and rap music approaching as dark clouds over the heads of Uzbek youth".

Uzbekistan is Central Asia's most populous country, where 90 percent of the 28 million inhabitants are Muslim.

The secular government, wary of both religious extremist ideology and "excesses of Western democracy", has in recent months shown increasing impatience with cultural imports from abroad.

The documentary, made in the style of a Soviet propa-

ganda film, said "rock music originated from African hunting rituals" and "rap was originated by inmates in prisons, that's why rap singers wear wide and long trousers".

"This satanic music was

may find some of the rock or rap songs performed by Uzbek singers as well... and be aware of the satanic effects of this evil music," the narrator warned.

The documentary also mentioned scientific research studying the effects of the music on human health, saying that if classical music was a cure from illnesses, rock and rap are the tickets to death.

The film repeatedly showed footage of Western singers in concerts, an encroaching scorpion and ended with nuclear bomb blast in the background and asked if "we can take measures against the dark clouds".

The broadcast of the documentary comes after Uzbekistan withdrew approval for the broadcast of two Russian television channels, reportedly due to the high sexual content in some of their shows.

created by evil forces to bring youth in Western countries to total moral degradation," according to the documentary.

Some of the Uzbek singers interviewed lambasted Western style pop and heavy music and said that the salvation from their hazardous effects was to be found in Uzbek classical music.

"If you check disks or flashcards in your home you



Hard rock group performing in France

Knox TV movie takes on Italy roommate slaying

NEW YORK (AFP) – A made-for-TV movie told the story of Amanda Knox, a US college student convicted of killing her British roommate in Italy, despite objections from the families of both Knox and the victim.

"Amanda Knox: Murder on Trial in Italy" leaves it to the viewer to decide her ultimate guilt and includes doubts cast

Knox's then-boyfriend Raffaele Sollecito and a man from Ivory Coast, Rudy Guede, were also convicted of the murder.

In the movie, aired on the Lifetime network, Knox is portrayed by Hayden Panettiere of the hit US series "Heroes," who stars alongside Paolo Romio as Sollecito in a dramatic rendering that is



Meredith Kercher, an exchange student from Coulsdon, south London, England.

on the DNA testing that convicted her, which are at the heart of an appeal lodged by her lawyers.

Knox was sentenced in December 2009 to 26 years in prison for the murder of Meredith Kercher in a drug-fuelled sex game that turned violent. She has repeatedly protested her innocence.

She is currently appealing the sentence, claiming that key forensic evidence used to convict her is unreliable and should be rejected. The next hearing is scheduled for March 12.

Kercher was found on November 2, 2007 -- semi-nude in a pool of blood with her throat slashed -- in the cottage she shared with Knox.

closely based on court records.

The producers edited out some of the more graphic parts of the killing scene after the outrage set off by the film's trailer, but the families on both sides continued to object to it.

"The movie is ill-timed, since Amanda's appeal is under way," David Marriott, a spokesman for the Knox family, said.

Francesco Maresca, who represents Kercher's family, also objected to the film.

"To have a film so soon, on such a violent death and with the memory of this tragedy so fresh in the family's mind, seems totally inappropriate and unjustified," he was quoted as saying.

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Error-strewn England trump Ten Doeschate



Netherlands cricketer Ryan ten Doeschate shouts towards the non-striker during The ICC Cricket World Cup 2011 match between England and Netherlands

NAGPUR (AFP) - Error-hit England survived a huge scare to get their World Cup bid off to a winning start with a six-wicket victory over the Netherlands Tuesday despite Ryan ten Doeschate's all-round heroics.

South Africa born ten Doeschate dominated England's attack in making 119 as the Netherlands piled up 292 for six and he then took two for 47.

But with England captain Andrew Strauss making 88, the Test side scraped home in front of a meagre crowd of only a few thousand.

"We got a lot of things

wrong with our bowling and fielding," said Strauss.

"It was a very good wicket, we knew if we kept wickets in hand we'd have a good chance. We have to improve as the tournament goes on."

Dutch skipper Peter Borren believed his team's respectable total was a challenging target, but admitted that their bowling had let them down.

"Obviously 292 was a good score. I thought it was competitive. It wasn't as easy as perhaps we made it look. I'm not sure if we made them work as hard as we possible

could have for the runs," said Borren.

England were cruising at 166 for one before medium-pacer ten Doeschate struck twice in quick succession.

Jonathan Trott was stumped for 56 down the leg-side by wicketkeeper Wesley Barresi and then he bowled Ian Bell (33) middle stump with his final delivery, leaving England needing 52 off the last seven overs with six wickets standing.

The match was back in the balance and England still needed 13 off the last 12 balls.

But Ravi Bopara then lofted medium-pacer Bernard Loots for six over long-off and levelled the score with four over long-on off the same bowler.

He then smashed the next delivery to the boundary as England won with eight balls to spare.

Bopara and Paul Collingwood both finished on 30 not out.

Earlier, ten Doeschate faced just 110 balls with three sixes and nine fours as the Netherlands, who beat England at Lord's in the opening match of the 2009 World Twenty20, eyed another upset victory in this Group B clash.

Second seed Fish advances with ease

DELRAY BEACH (AFP) - US second seed Mardy Fish needed only 20 minutes to reach the second round of the \$442,500 ATP Delray Beach International Championships on Tuesday when German rival Bjorn Phau retired.

Fish led 5-0 and had lost only six points in the match, breaking Phau twice before the German halted the match, advancing the American into a second-round meeting with Brazil's Ricardo Mello.

South African fifth seed Kevin Anderson rallied to beat US lucky loser Donald Young 6-7 (5/7), 7-6 (7/4), 6-2 after two hours and 30 minutes, booking a second-round match against Frenchman Florent Serra.

Serbian sixth seed Janko Tipsarevic also advanced, winning an epic marathon tie-breaker and a lopsided one to eliminate Ivo Karlovic 7-6 (16/14), 7-6 (7/1) despite 18 aces from the Croatian, who lost in last year's Delray Beach final.



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Sabres sale to Pegula approved



NEW YORK (AFP) - National Hockey League club owners approved the sale of the Buffalo Sabres to natural gas billionaire Terry Pegula on Tuesday in a unanimous vote, the league announced.

The \$189 million deal comes just over three months after Pegula began talks with former owner Tom Golisano about buying the club and a day after he made a final inspection tour of the club's home arena.

"Terry's clear commitment to the Sabres and the NHL signal the start of an exciting new chapter in the history of the franchise," NHL commissioner Gary Bettman said.

With 27 triumphs in 58 games, the Sabres have 60 points to share ninth in the Eastern Conference with Atlanta, both of them four points behind Carolina for the final playoff berth in the East.

Anderson outlasts Young to advance

DELRAY BEACH (AFP) - South African fifth seed Kevin Anderson rallied to beat US lucky loser Donald Young, advancing to the second round of the \$442,500 ATP Delray Beach International Championships on Tuesday.

Anderson fought back to eliminate Young 6-7 (5/7), 7-6 (7/4), 6-2 after two hours and 30 minutes, booking a second-round match against Frenchman Florent Serra.

Japan's Kei Nishikori also opened with a victory, downing Argentina's Brian Dabul 6-2, 7-6 (7/5). He will next face US wild card James Blake, who ousted German

seventh seed Benjamin Becker on Monday.

Croatia's Ivan Dodig also reached the second round, dispatching Russian Igor Kunitsyn 6-4, 2-6, 6-3. Dodig will face the winner of a later match between Israel's Dudi Sela and Australian qualifier Marinko Matosevic.

Matosevic replaced US top seed Andy Roddick in the 32-man draw when the American pulled out Monday, citing illness after a three-set Memphis final struggle before capturing his 30th career ATP title.

Latvian Ernests Gulbis, the 2010 Delray winner, is playing in Dubai this year.



Boston Red Sox players David Ortiz, left, and Adrian Gonzalez talk in the outfield during spring training baseball practice at the Red Sox player development complex in Fort Myers, Florida.

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Carmelo Anthony traded to Knicks: report

DENVER, Colorado (AFP) — The Denver Nuggets have traded Carmelo Anthony to the New York Knicks in a blockbuster multi-player deal that involves players, draft picks and cash, according to the Denver Post.

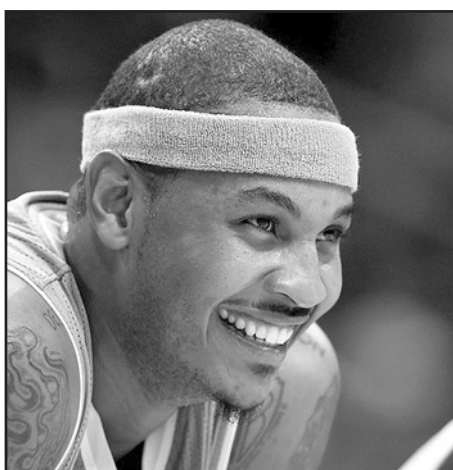
New York is reportedly ready to give up Wilson Chandler, Raymond Felton, Danilo Gallinari, Timofey Mozgov and three draft picks and \$3 million in cash.

In exchange, Denver would send the 26-year-old

Anthony, Chauncey Billups, Sheldon Williams, Anthony Carter and Renaldo Balkman to New York.

Nothing is official as any deal can't be finalized until a conference call with the league office on Tuesday.

Citing a league source, the Denver newspaper also said New York would give up a 2014 first-round draft pick to the Nuggets, the Warriors 2012 second-



round pick, the Warriors 2013 second round pick and \$3 million in cash.

Anthony did not attend the Nuggets' practice Monday, staying behind in Los Angeles after the annual all-star game to tape a segment on the American talk show "Conan".

"I am glad it is over," Denver coach George Karl was quoted saying in the Post. "I am glad it's an opportunity to reinvent. I think everybody handled it

as classy as you could handle it. There's some sadness to it, there always will be."

Anthony has been the focus of intense trade talks for several weeks and even more so during all-star weekend because Thursday is the NBA's trading deadline.

Last summer Anthony declined to sign a three-year \$65 million contract extension with Denver.

The Milwaukee Bucks visit the Knicks on Wednesday.

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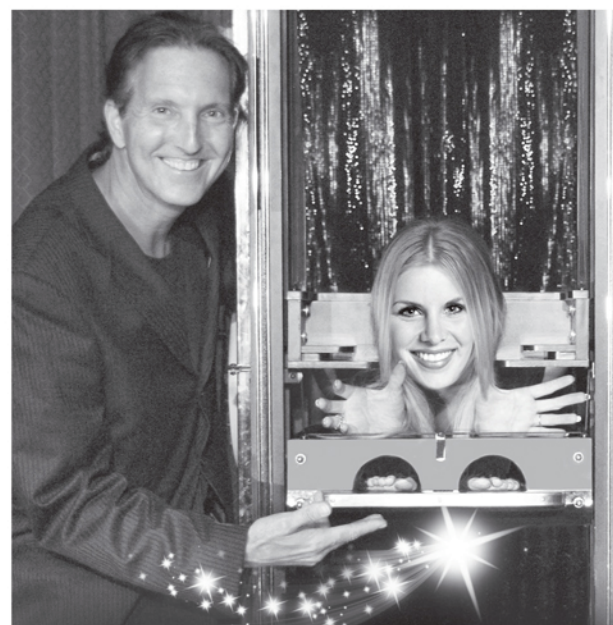
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Elbow injury knocks Clark out of WGC event

MARANA (AFP) - South Africa's Tim Clark withdrew from the World Golf Championships Match-Play Championship on Tuesday because of an elbow injury and was replaced in the 64-player event by American J.B. Holmes.

Clark, who won The Players Championship last year, is ranked 22 in the world and was set to open against Colombian Camilo Villegas on Wednesday. Holmes will move into the match against Villegas.

Clark has not played since sharing second place at last month's PGA Sony Open in

Hawaii, where he developed severe foot blisters.

Holmes lost 1-down to Tiger Woods in the first round of the 2008 WGC Match-Play in his only prior start in the event.

IndyCar to roll the dice in Vegas

LAS VEGAS -- IndyCar will roll the dice with a \$5 million dare to rival racing drivers at its season-ending race in Las Vegas, series chief executive Randy Bernard said Tuesday.

IndyCar will conclude its 17-race 2011 season with an October 16 race at the 1.5-mile Las Vegas Motor Speed-

way oval, officials announced before Bernard issued his challenge to any non-IndyCar professional racer to win in Vegas.

"We showcase our drivers as being the very best, fastest and most versatile in the world and we are putting our money where our mouth is,"

Bernard said.

"If any race car driver in the world outside of the IndyCar Series can win the Vegas race, we will give you \$5 million. We will accept five entries for this challenge, with entrants being determined by mid-summer."

IndyCar staged races at the venue from 1996 through 2000

and Champ Car staged events at the oval in 2004 and 2005.

But the track was reconfigured in 2006 and even past winners such as Frenchman Sebastien Bourdais might have troubles sorting out the oval, to say nothing of adjusting to an IndyCar in time for a one-race gamble.

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